

With many issues still unresolved in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, Good Jobs New York is keeping the spotlight on government money in the rebuilding process. For more on opportunities for community involvement, follow us on Twitter @GoodJobsNewYork #EyeOnSandyMoney. And let us know how we can make this alert better.

Keeping an Eye on Recovery Money Hurricane Sandy News Round-up: April 30 - May 14

The Hurricane Sandy News Round-up is now a bi-weekly publication.

Scroll down for:

[This week's news](#)

[Regional Events](#)

[Advocacy Reports](#)

[Federal, State & Local Resources](#)

This Week's News

Disaster Relief

FEMA will reopen all 144,000 Sandy flood insurance claims. [Long Island Herald](#)

ALSO: Beginning May 18, FEMA is expected to mail letters to insurance policyholders signaling a 90-day period in which policy holders can request to reopen their claims. [Insurance Journal](#)

An investigation into the National Flood Insurance Program found that FEMA systematically incentivizes insurance companies to underpay claims, and potentially penalizes them for paying an adequate amount for damages. [WNYC](#)

The Standard Fire Insurance Company, a subsidiary of Travelers Insurance, has been accused of withholding documents related to Hurricane Sandy flood insurance claims. [International Business Times](#)

New Jersey's electricity utility PSEG has reached a settlement for over \$200 million with insurance carriers that denied full coverage for its losses during Sandy. [NJ Advance](#)

Although six NYCHA developments in Staten Island are located within hurricane evacuation zones, no money was allocated to them for resiliency. [Staten Island Advance](#)

A top priority for Congressman elect Daniel Donovan (R-Staten Island) should be ensuring Staten Island gets substantial Sandy aid, according to this [Staten Island Advance](#) editorial.

New York City Economic Development Corporation [blogs](#) about the Rise:NYC small business recovery award winners; eleven winners will receive a combined \$30 million to implement technologies to help support resiliency.

ALSO: A Florida company, Architecture Metals, which manufactures waterproof metal flood barriers, was one of the winners of the RISE:NYC competition and will partner with local construction firms to install the flood panels for businesses in the city. [CNN Money](#)

Federal investigators have closed the investigation into allegations that Governor Chris Christie threatened to withhold Sandy relief from Hoboken unless Hoboken Mayor Dawn Zimmer supported a development proposal. [NorthJersey.com](#)

Rebuilding Infrastructure and Resiliency

The Obama Administration is urging transit officials in New York and New Jersey to reach agreement on a plan to build the Gateway project, which is necessary to support regional rail traffic capacity during repairs to Amtrak's current Hudson River tunnels badly damaged during Sandy. [The New York Times](#) and [WNYC](#)

ALSO: New York State, New Jersey and possibly New York City would be expected to pay a majority of the \$8 billion cost to build Gateway. [City and State](#)

Newly elected New York Senate majority leader John Flannigan has questioned the science behind climate change and suggested that any legislation to address problems such as rising sea levels should be the responsibility of the federal government. [Capital New York](#)

EmblemHealth warns that insurers should fortify data centers for rising sea levels and future storms or risk losing vital healthcare information. [V3.co.uk](#)

The Army Corps of Engineers began a series of beach protection projects along the coast of New Jersey that will bring all of Long Beach Island beaches to ACE standards. [CBS local](#)

No hurricanes rated Category 3 or above have made landfall in the U.S. in nine years. [CBS News](#)

Housing

Senator Charles E. Schumer (D-NY) is [urging](#) FEMA to drop a \$250 surcharge on insurance bills for second homes that is automatically applied to all insurance bills unless policy holders submit a proof of primary residency. [Staten Island Advance](#)

A New York City College of Technology team unveiled an emergency housing design for entry in the U.S. Department of Energy solar decathlon, and is building the project in the Brooklyn Navy Yard. [Clean Technica](#)

[Subscribe](#) to the new Build it Back newsletter for regular updates of the city's progress with housing recovery efforts.

Events

Regional Events

Ongoing, citywide: [New York Free Disaster Assistance Legal Clinics](#).

Thursday, May 28, 2015 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm: [Natural Disaster Risk Reduction in NYC and Norway](#); Achieving Resilience with Nature-Based Solutions, with lessons from New York City post-Sandy. A debate organized by The Nature Conservancy in collaboration with the government of Norway. Scandinavia House: The Nordic Center in America, 58 Park Ave, New York, NY 10016

Do you have a group interested in helping with the Sandy rebuild? Check out [this list](#) of ongoing service opportunities to help with hurricane Sandy rebuilding and revitalization.

Advocacy Reports

Fair Share Housing: [The State of Recovery - Two and a Half Years later, over 15,000 families still waiting to rebuild. Second Annual report](#)

Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development: [Social Resiliency and Superstorm Sandy: Lessons from New York City Community Organizations](#)

LES Ready!: [Getting LES Ready: Learning from Hurricane Sandy to create a community-based disaster plan for the future](#)

Center for Disaster Philanthropy; Council of New Jersey Grantmakers; Foundation Center; Philanthropy New York: [Philanthropy and Hurricane Sandy: A Report on the Foundation and Corporate Response](#). A new report looks at the role of philanthropy in the response to Hurricane Sandy and how contributions help fund community advocacy, social services and other redevelopment planning processes.

Union of Concerned Scientists: [Encroaching Tides: How Sea Level Rise and Tidal Flooding Threaten U.S. East and Gulf Coast Communities over the Next 30 Years](#)

The Center for New York City Neighborhoods: [Rising Tides, Rising Costs](#)

[FloodHelpNY](#) is a dynamic map that allows users to find out what their flood insurance rate will be when new federal flood maps are available in 2016 and provides links to information on purchasing flood insurance.

For more advocacy resources, visit Good Jobs New York's [Keeping an Eye on Hurricane Sandy Recovery Money](#)

Federal, State & Local Resources

[One New York: The Plan for a Strong and Just City](#)

[National Flood Insurance Program and Mitigation Resource List](#)

Office of the New York City Comptroller: [Audit Report on the Administration of the New York City Build It Back Single Family Program By the Mayor's Office of Housing Recovery Operations](#)

U.S. Department of Labor Office of Inspector General audit: [Superstorm Sandy National Emergency Grants: ETA Awarded Funds Promptly, But Could Improve Grant Modification and Eligibility Verification Processes](#)

[Building the Knowledge Base for Climate Resiliency: New York City Panel on Climate Change 2015 Report](#)

The Army Corps of Engineers: [North Atlantic Coast Comprehensive Study Report and Related Documents](#)

Governor's Office of Storm Recovery: [New York Rising 2012-2014](#)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: [Primary Protection: Enhancing Health care Resilience for a Changing Climate](#)

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of the Inspector General audit: [The City of New York, Office of Management and Budget, administration of CDBG -DR Assistance Funds awarded to the city.](#)

Northeast-Midwest Institute: [Building a Climate-Resilient Great Lakes: Federal Resources and Assistance for State and Local Governments](#)

New York City Economic Development Corporation and New York City Department of City Planning: [Water Street: Transforming Water Street's Privately Owned Public Spaces \(POPS\)](#)

Office of the New York City Comptroller, [On the Frontlines: \\$129 billion in property at risk from flood waters](#)

ALSO: Good Jobs New York provides a critique of the federal Task Force recommendations in a [three-part blog series](#).

For more resources, visit Good Jobs New York's [Keeping an Eye on Hurricane Sandy Recovery Money](#)

We'd love to hear from you!

Check out our resources on Hurricane Sandy money at our website. Or follow us on Twitter: [@GoodJobsNewYork](#) [#EyeOnSandyMoney](#). Please forward your suggestions on how we can make this round-up more useful to you in your work.

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